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**Written Testimony for the
Higher Education & Workforce Advancement Committee
From
Judith B. Greiman
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges**
March 9, 2010

On behalf of the member institutions of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC), ***I am submitting testimony in support of SB 136, AAC New and Revised Academic Programs of Non-Profit Independent Institutions of Higher Education.***

This bill streamlines Connecticut's regulatory process by removing the requirement that private non-profit colleges and universities licensed in Connecticut seek approval from the Department of Higher Education (DHE) prior to offering academic programs.

Connecticut's program approval process for the non-profit independent higher education sector is different and more restrictive than in most other states. Data collected by CCIC show that thirty-nine states have no state program approval required for independent colleges. Eleven states have some kind of approval although in four of these cases, it is limited or by exception or consists of a review rather than approval process (See attached survey data).

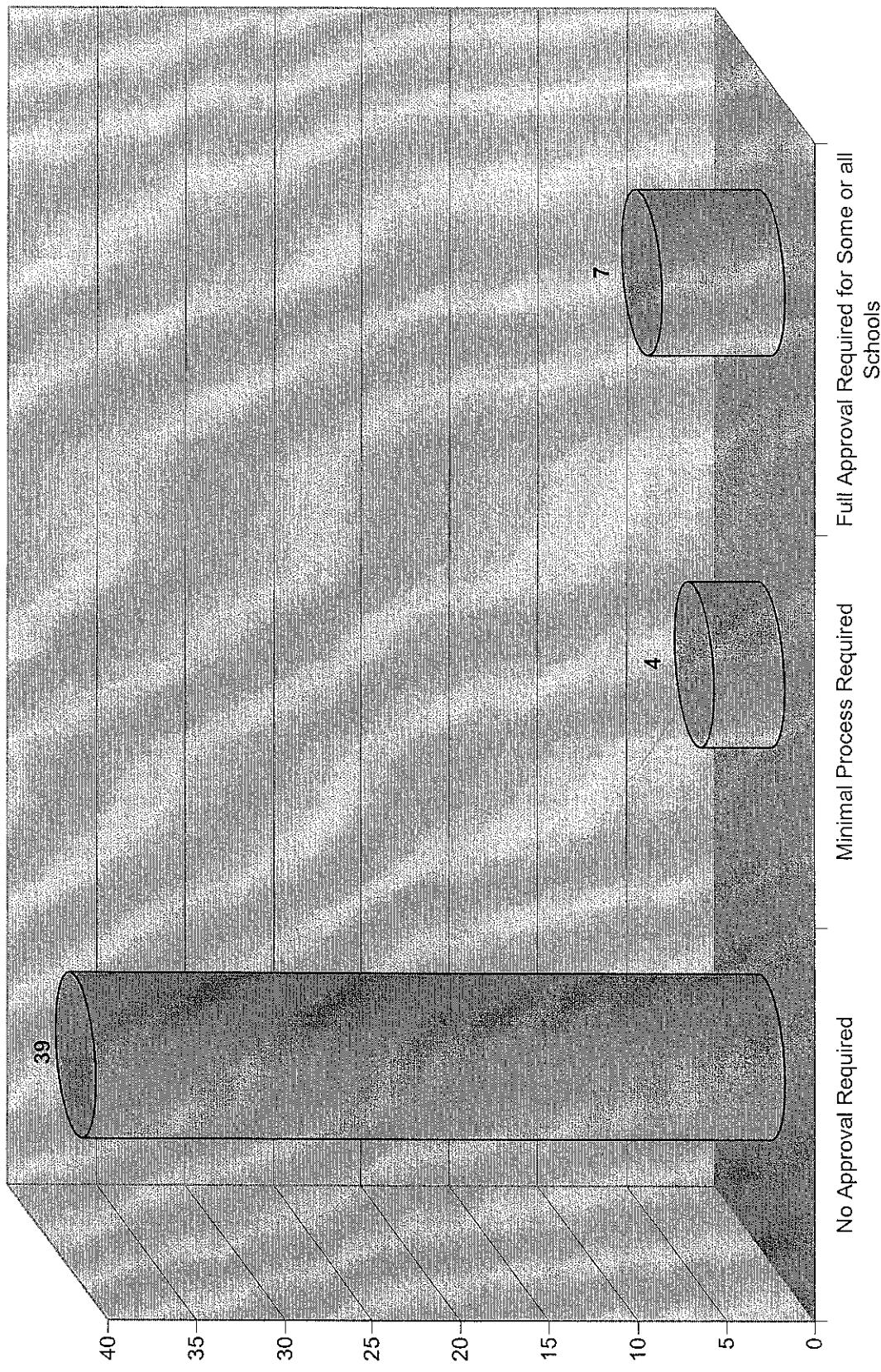
Results from a recent campus survey show that the DHE process currently takes 3-6 months. In practice, however, given the timing of DHE meetings and the time it takes for a college to advertise a program, this can mean that a school loses an entire academic year before being able to admit students to a new program. It is important to note that these are programs that receive no state funding and that are fully vetted through various campus processes by accredited higher education institutions and, often, by discipline specific national organizations.

Private non-profit colleges and universities in Connecticut strive to provide relevant and sought after majors and degree and certificate programs. They connect with the employer community through advisory relationships, internships, research collaborations, guest teaching opportunities and statewide economic development efforts. Many of them also link with area community colleges regarding program articulation. In developing new programs, they assess the academic foundations and rigor, institutional fit, available teaching, support and faculty resources and market viability. Proposed programs at these regionally accredited institutions go through various extensive on-campus reviews. Only the academically and financially strong programs are ultimately offered.

In this dire economic time, it is appropriate to review what state regulation adds value. In this case, given the vetting of all new programs that goes on in our sector, there is no need for further state review. The State can achieve a cost savings if this is repealed and employers will see offerings of new or modified programs appearing faster.

Albertus Magnus College, Connecticut College, Fairfield University, Goodwin College,
Mitchell College, Quinnipiac University, Rensselaer at Hartford, Sacred Heart University, Saint Joseph College, St. Vincent's College,
Trinity College, University of Bridgeport, University of Hartford, University of New Haven, Wesleyan University, Yale University

Academic Program Approval by State Authority for Private College Programs



Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
Survey Concerning Higher Education Regulations by State
Independent College Associations' Data

State	Are Independent Colleges Regulated by a Board of Higher Education/Education?	Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving New Programs for Independent Colleges?		Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving Modifications of Existing Programs?		Does this Board look at Program Quality and Whether Implementing Program Causes Unnecessary Duplication?	Does this Board have Approval Authority, Must your Institutions Submit Program Information to any State Agency on an International Basis Only?
		No	No	No	No		
Alabama	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Alaska	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Arizona	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Arkansas	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
California	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Colorado	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Connecticut	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Delaware	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Florida	No	Review only, not approval	No	No	No	No	No
Georgia	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hawaii	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Idaho	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Illinois	Yes	Yes	Yes	No - once a program is approved it applies to entire geographic area not solely to institution's address.	No	No	No
Indiana	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Iowa	No, Voluntary Coordinating Bd. (Iowa Council for Postsecondary Education)	No	No	No	No	No	No
Kansas	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Kentucky	Yes	Yes, Technically has program approval authority, Practically, they only require campuses to report their intention to begin a new program.	No, Independents are expected to report their intent to modify an existing program.	No	Yes	No	No

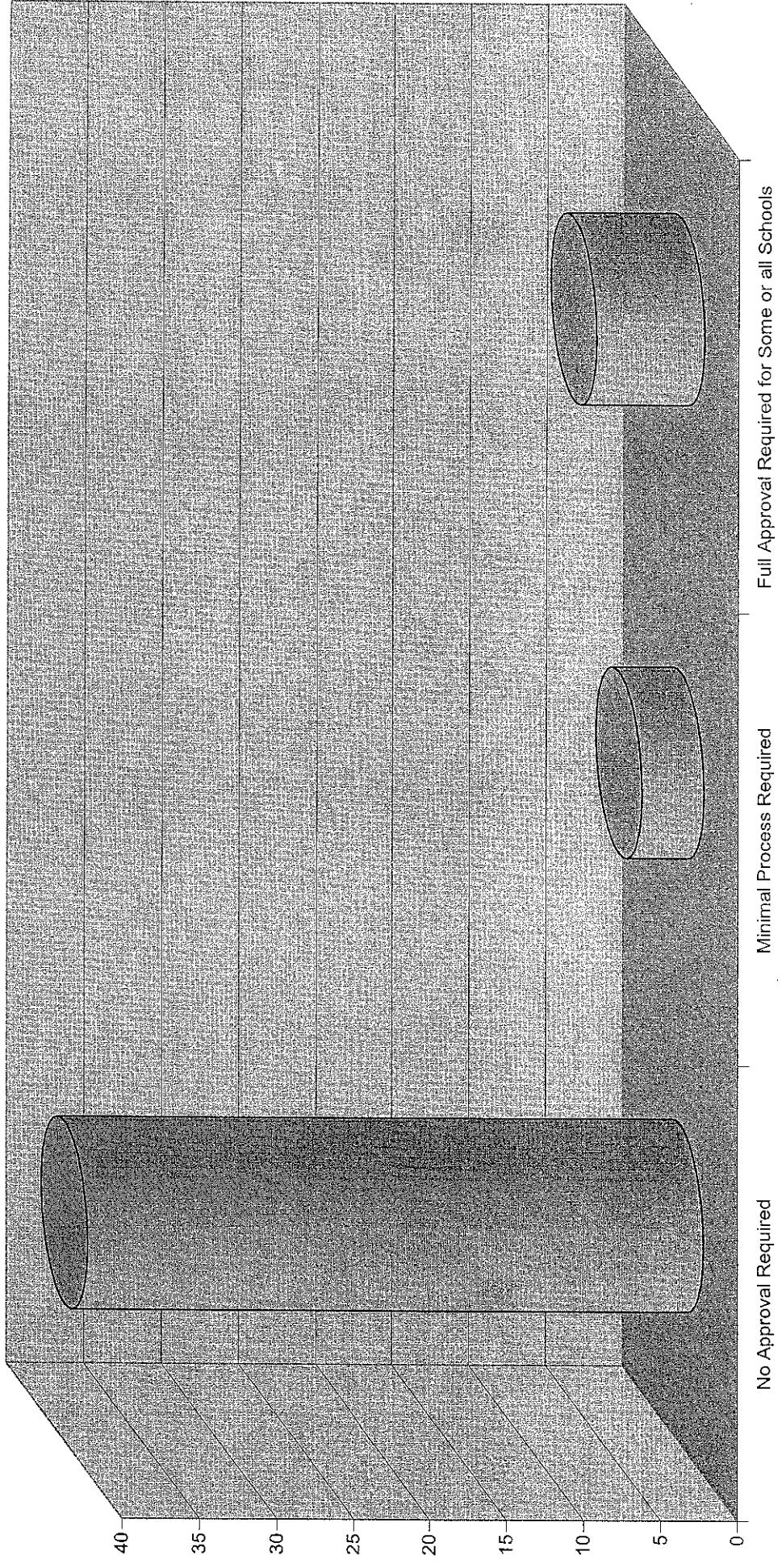
State	Are Independent Colleges Regulated by a Board of Higher Education/Education?	Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving New Programs for Independent Colleges?		Does this Board look at Program Quality and Whether Implementing Program Causes Unnecessary Duplication?	Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving Modifications of Existing Programs?	Yes, for teacher ed the Board of Education has statutory program approval.	Yes, for teacher ed the Board of Education has statutory program approval.
		No	Yes				
Louisiana	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Maine	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Maryland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Massachusetts	Yes, one-third are regulated	Yes, licensure	Yes, licensure	Yes, depends on extent	No	No	No
Michigan	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Minnesota	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mississippi	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Missouri	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Montana	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Nebraska	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Nevada	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Hampshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A
		yes, but limited (shared) - programs are approved by NJCHE before forwarded to NJCHE for final approval.		there are clear guidelines. "unnecessary duplication is one. Program approval process manual is attached.			
New Jersey	licensed by the NJ Commission on Higher Education. The NJCHE replaced the NJ DHE in 1994.		it is voluntary for the charter members.		No	No	No
New Mexico	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

Are Independent Colleges Regulated by a Board of Higher Education/Education? State	Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving New Programs for Independent Colleges?	Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving Modifications of Existing Programs?	If there is no such Approving Authority, Must your Institutions Submit Program Information to any State Agency on an Informational Basis Only?		
			Does this Board look at Program Quality and Whether Implementing Program Causes Unnecessary Duplication?	Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving Modifications of Existing Programs?	N/A
New York	Yes, the New York State Board of Regents and its State Education Department.	Yes, and in the same manner and using the same criteria as it does for public institutions of higher education in our state.	Yes.	No	No
North Carolina	No	No	No	No	No
North Dakota	No	No	No	No	No
Ohio	Yes	Yes	Yes depends on extent	Quality Only	No
Oklahoma	No	No	No, only for institutions in previous column.	No, only for institutions in previous column.	No
Oregon	No, but Oregon Office of Degree Authorization (ODA) authorizes and monitors (on a routine 2-yr. Schedule, using a clear set of state standards) all out-of-st, all proprietary and all non-regionally accredited institutions.	No, only for institutions in previous column.	No, only for institutions in previous column.	No, all publicly-funded institutions must submit new program proposals to all non-public institutions for comment and possible challenge if adverse impact is anticipated. ODA oversees elaborate arbitration and resolution procedures for such scenarios.	No
Pennsylvania	There is a State Board of Education that regulates some aspects of higher education.	no. The State Department of Education does have authority over certain schools with newer charters.	no. The State Department of Education does have authority over certain schools with newer charters.	The Department looks at program quality and loosely looks at the duplication.	Program information must be submitted to PDE for all types of charters.
Rhode Island	No, new colleges only.	No	No	No	No
South Carolina	No	No	No	No	No
South Dakota	No	No	No	No	No

State	Are Independent Colleges Regulated by a Board of Higher Education/Education?	Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving New Programs for Independent Colleges?		Does this Board have Responsibility for Approving Modifications of Existing Programs?		Does this Board look at Program Quality and Whether Implementing Program Causes Unnecessary Duplication?		Does this Board look at Program Quality and Whether Implementing Program Causes Unnecessary Duplication?	
		No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tennessee	No								
Texas	No								
Utah	No								
Vermont	Yes								
Virginia*	No								
Washington	No								
West Virginia	No								
Wisconsin	No								
Wyoming	No								

*VA private colleges are exempt from program approval requirements if they have been in existence for 10 years under the same ownership and are accredited by a DOE approved accrediting agency, and have had no adverse action taken

Academic Program Approval by State Authority for Private College Programs



State H. Ed. Funds Distribution and Expenditures Per Degree Output In 2007-2008

Among Selected States

	St. Funds to Private Sector Students & Institutions		St. Funds to Public Sector Students & Institutions		All Degrees Awd'd. (Assc., Bach., Grad.) in 2007-08 Acad. Yr.		State \$'s Spent Per Degree by Sector		For every \$1 of invstmnt in pri. degree, taxpay. invsts __ in put
	07-08 Aid to Students	06-07Approps. To Insti's.	07-08 Aid to Students	07-08Approps. To Insti's.	Private	Public	Private	Public	
Alabama	\$7,009,955	\$11,380,763	\$14,662,248	1,492,451,822	5,463	36,394	\$3,366	\$41,411	\$12.30
Alaska	\$5,109,605		\$77,868,429	227,675,793	229	3,071	\$22,313	\$99,493	\$4.46
Arizona	\$4,627,964		\$11,639,222	1,688,585,881	54,123	38,097	\$86	\$44,629	\$521.92
Arkansas	\$5,884,522		\$34,356,642	823,188,062	3,029	18,158	\$1,943	\$47,227	\$24.31
California	\$261,760,674		\$591,671,333	12,575,548,445	94,747	227,182	\$2,763	\$57,959	\$20.98
Colorado	\$12,681,569		\$83,449,368	612,997,843	18,898	32,755	\$671	\$21,262	\$31.68
Connecticut	\$26,479,407		\$100,120,144	675,761,428	16,397	17,151	\$1,615	\$45,238	\$28.01
Delaware	\$525,701		\$18,356,365	193,829,762	3,174	6,201	\$166	\$34,218	\$206.60
Florida	\$175,400,029	\$19,421,294	\$471,014,440	3,694,401,524	58,020	112,376	\$3,358	\$37,067	\$11.04
Georgia	\$72,328,283		\$439,527,729	2,751,001,229	19,000	47,656	\$3,807	\$66,949	\$17.59
Hawaii	\$64,558		\$25,110,919	315,308,611	3,813	7,415	\$17	\$45,910	\$2,711.57
Idaho	\$2,215,617		\$6,751,060	379,491,840	4,116	8,766	\$538	\$44,061	\$81.85
Illinois	\$182,680,193		\$245,259,676	2,887,210,667	77,945	72,890	\$2,344	\$42,975	\$18.34
Indiana	\$148,601,933		\$249,751,459	1,122,500,012	22,816	44,938	\$6,513	\$30,537	\$4.69
Iowa	\$57,075,807		\$8,710,135	698,244,286	18,802	25,156	\$3,036	\$28,103	\$9.26
Kansas	\$12,210,447		\$11,611,864	751,900,760	6,009	26,071	\$2,032	\$29,286	\$14.41
Kentucky	\$66,200,023		\$125,911,670	1,200,456,203	9,061	28,987	\$7,306	\$45,757	\$6.26
Louisiana	\$10,845,595	\$9,185,379	\$127,956,698	1,366,913,654	8,019	27,184	\$2,498	\$54,991	\$22.01
Maine	\$21,161,196		\$0	218,373,244	3,924	7,313	\$5,393	\$29,861	\$5.54
Maryland	\$21,109,487	\$49,964,598	\$89,617,566	1,603,774,127	13,676	39,118	\$5,197	\$43,289	\$8.33
Massachusetts	\$42,066,678		\$81,874,158	1,067,067,594	65,983	28,223	\$638	\$40,709	\$63.85
Michigan	\$87,475,651		\$152,678,666	2,064,082,339	24,842	80,029	\$3,521	\$27,699	\$7.87
Minnesota	\$96,624,757		\$214,286,707	1,227,472,154	28,601	37,108	\$3,378	\$38,853	\$11.50
Mississippi	\$4,309,182		\$26,890,672	842,125,360	3,569	22,082	\$1,207	\$39,354	\$32.59
Missouri	\$55,657,344		\$65,317,276	1,116,458,349	38,002	33,490	\$1,465	\$35,287	\$24.09
Montana	\$33,673		\$5,121,745	179,259,982	800	7,443	\$42	\$24,773	\$588.54
Nebraska	\$2,528,917		\$115,202,849	563,880,008	7,733	14,388	\$327	\$47,198	\$144.32
Nevada	\$0		\$57,460,795	559,377,169	2,500	10,200	\$0	\$60,474	
New Hampshire	\$3,942,841		\$147,857	96,154,955	7,711	7,354	\$511	\$13,095	\$25.61
New Jersey	\$183,176,656	\$19,481,000	\$428,309,878	1,706,851,325	16,898	47,432	\$11,993	\$45,015	\$3.75
New Mexico	\$2,430,512		\$78,059,921	805,008,429	2,215	14,145	\$1,097	\$62,430	\$56.89
New York	\$418,775,859	\$46,200,000	\$504,751,791	4,385,043,629	139,393	110,061	\$3,336	\$44,428	\$13.32
North Carolina	\$133,287,929		\$229,347,389	3,582,755,950	20,175	57,274	\$6,607	\$66,559	\$10.07
North Dakota	\$532,006		\$3,916,097	197,901,926	1,549	8,011	\$343	\$25,193	\$73.35
Ohio	\$128,367,005		\$127,657,132	1,787,247,047	37,304	72,016	\$3,441	\$26,590	\$7.73
Oklahoma	\$23,471,707		\$163,873,245	1,035,039,357	6,551	29,139	\$3,583	\$41,145	\$11.48
Oregon	\$5,210,054		\$68,173,763	686,732,758	9,154	24,681	\$569	\$30,587	\$53.74
Pennsylvania	\$240,540,211	\$88,977,000	\$266,538,643	1,802,140,299	76,365	68,232	\$4,315	\$30,318	\$7.03
Puerto Rico	\$21,872,897		\$15,440,433	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Rhode Island	\$4,133,483		\$11,202,873	146,464,358	11,343	5,323	\$364	\$29,620	\$81.28
South Carolina	\$77,129,669		\$221,489,261	1,031,058,923	7,651	26,062	\$10,081	\$48,060	\$4.77
South Dakota	\$513,669		\$2,339,263	148,717,659	2,296	6,402	\$224	\$23,595	\$105.47
Tennessee	\$68,302,839		\$217,328,713	1,304,458,967	18,874	30,511	\$3,619	\$49,877	\$13.78
Texas	\$162,602,057		\$536,489,761	6,386,158,073	35,680	146,514	\$4,557	\$47,249	\$10.37
Utah	\$956,431		\$54,859,664	670,995,002	12,334	23,824	\$78	\$30,467	\$392.90
Vermont	\$7,558,867		\$13,822,558	47,587,070	4,461	4,208	\$1,694	\$14,594	\$8.61
Virginia	\$63,313,468		\$212,652,496	1,601,069,254	20,532	54,260	\$3,084	\$33,426	\$10.84
Washington	\$38,753,214		\$198,930,824	1,560,125,536	13,318	47,819	\$2,910	\$36,786	\$12.64
Washington, DC	\$15,235,771		\$18,260,310	N/A	23,864	573	\$638	\$31,868	\$49.92
West Virginia	\$10,613,931		\$92,711,076	469,948,714	4,457	14,462	\$2,381	\$38,906	\$16.34
Wisconsin	\$29,453,189		\$80,806,474	1,416,120,524	14,234	41,157	\$2,069	\$36,371	\$17.58
Wyoming	\$0		\$162,184	339,004,049	739	4,359	\$0	\$77,808	
Total/Avg.:	\$3,022,843,032	\$244,610,034	\$6,999,451,441	\$74,105,921,951	1,100,389	1,903,661	2,969	42,605	\$14.35

Sources:

Aid to Students is from 39th Annual NASSGAP Survey of 2007-08 Aid. \$'s to undesignated sectors are prorated to each sector based on known designated dollars. (see FB 7-9-16)

State appropriations to Public institution are from SHEEO report of FY2008 appropriations for operating expenses only (no med'l. extension, etc.)

State appropriations to Private institutions are from 2007 Session NAICUSE (SNIN) survey of independent sector state offices.

Degrees awarded are from Digest of Educational Statistics 2008, Table 320.